



Fig. 6: Exhibit Case Preservation Features and Controls

Exhibit Conservation Guidelines

FEATURE	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
1. Physical security	No special security features	Minimal security Sample features: Conventional construction materials; tamper-resistant screws and fasteners or locks	Moderate security Sample features: Construction materials with higher resistance; concealed screws tamper-resistant fasteners; locks and low-level alarms	High security Sample features: Level 3 plus highest rated construction materials; high level locks, sensors, and alarms tied to central dispatch
2. Construction material restrictions	No special construction restrictions	Minimal restrictions Sample features: Conventional museum case construction; sealed wood products	Moderate restrictions Sample features: Use of high-quality materials and finishes; low -VOC** emitters, sealed wood products	High restrictions Sample features: Use of inert materials, no wood products or potential VOC emitters
3. Air seal (airtightness)	No special sealing features	Minimal to moderate seal Sample features: Conventional construction; standard design for removable panels, doors, and glazing; standard tolerances for joined materials	Moderate to tight seal Sample features: Strict tolerances for joints and seams; well-sealed gaskets on removable panels, doors, and glazing; use of caulk sealant; closely spaced fasteners	Hermetic seal Sample features: Level 3 plus airtight design and construction; use of specialized sealant, gaskets and fasteners; atmospheres are commonly filled with inert gas
4. Interior environmental control	No special control features	Minimal control Sample features: control based on passive case design, construction material selection, and case seal	Moderate controls Sample features: Level 2 plus the inclusion of passive environmental modifying agents (absorbers, scavengers)	Maximum control Sample features: Control based on active (micro) mechanical system; highly restricted environmental ranges
5. Exhibit lighting control	No special control features	Minimal control Sample features: Separate lighting compartment with own entry; restrictions limited to visible light range	Moderate control Sample features: Level 2 plus moderate restrictions on ultraviolet and infrared radiation; visitor activated lighting	Maximum control Sample features: Level 3 plus highly restricted range of visible light, ultraviolet and infrared radiation; no heating of objects or case interior

* A single exhibit case can combine different levels of features and controls

** Volatile Organic Compounds